Atty. Docket No: 2850 (203-3277)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANTS:

Cunningham et al.

EXAMINER: Melissa K. Ryckman

SERIAL NO.:

10/618,990

GROUP:

Art Unit 3773

FILED:

July 14, 2003

DATED:

July 21, 2009

FOR:

SURGICAL COBRA HEAD SUTURE NEEDLE

Confirmation No.: 5967

Mail Stop: RCE

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE

Sir:

In response to the Advisory Action of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office mailed on July 6, 2009, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

A complete listing of the Claims begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 8 of this paper.

(00020262 v1)

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8(a)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited on date below with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, postpaid in an envelope, addressed to the: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Dated: July 21, 2009

Paul I' Natof